THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The project proposals received from the Government of Karnataka in respect of Markandeya Project and Upper Tunga Project were techno-economically appraised and accepted by the Advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources subject to few observations. The project proposals for Bhima Lift Irrigation Scheme and Singatalur Lift Irrigation Scheme are under appraisal by the Central Appraising Agencies. The Varahi Project being a project in the intra-State River Basin, the State Government itself can accord investment approval. Investment approval to Uduthurehalla Project is held up for want of final verdict of Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal. In addition to the above, the project proposal for Hipparagi Project was accepted by the Advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources subject to few observations. Further, project proposal for Basapur Lift Irrigation Scheme is under techno-economic appraisal by the Central appraisingagencies. In principle clearance accorded to Kalasanala-Banduranala Project is kept in abeyance.

Dams on Kosi and Bagmati Rivers

†4329. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the proposed multipurpose dams on the Kosi and the Bagmati Rivers and their tributaries;

(b) whether it is a fact that the floods in the above rivers result in loss of life and property worth crores of rupees in North Bihar each year;

(c) if so, the details of steps Government are taking to control this loss; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) As regards the dam on Kosi River, an India - Nepal Joint Project Office has been, opened at Biratnagar (Nepal) in August, 2004 for field investigations and preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) of Sapta Kosi High" Dam Multipurpose Project and Sun Kosi Storage Cum Diversion Scheme. Further it has also been agreed by Nepal to carry out the feasibility study of Kamla Multipurpose Project and preliminary study of Bagmati Multipurpose

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Project by the above Joint Project Office to ascertain likely constraints in the implementation of these projects so that these could be appropriately addressed.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Flood management being within the purview of State Government, the schemes are planned, funded and executed by the State Governments.The assistance rendered by Central Government is technical,catalytical and promotional in nature. Besides steps taken by the Government of India regarding the studies of the dams as indicated in para (a), a number of other steps have been taken by Central Government to assist the State Government in flood management. A scheme to take up "Critical anti erosion works in Ganga Basin States" at an estimated cost of Rs. 178.85 crore (Central Share of Rs. 136.17 crore) was approved during the Tenth Plan (2004—07). An amount of Rs. 40.00 crore has been allocated to Government of Bihar under the scheme. Assistance is also being rendered to the State for maintenance of Kosi embankment (Nepal portion); improvement of drainage; extension, raising and strengthening of embankments for Rivers Lalbakeya, Kamla, Bagmati and Khando; during the Tenth Plan with outlays of Rs. 27.00 crore, Rs.27.38 crore, Rs. 46.00 crore respectively. Central Water Commission is also issuing flood forecasts through a nation wide flood forecasts and warning system including Bihar in order to mitigate the damages from floods.

Government of India also constituted a Task Force for Flood Management/Erosion Control to examine the problem of flood and erosion in Assam and neighbouring States, West Bengal, Bihar and Eastern Uttar Pradesh. The Task Force has *inter alia* recommended immediate, short term and long term measures. The report of Task Force has been sent to the concerned State Governments/Departments of Central Government etc. for obtaining their views and to take follow up action.

Schemes for development of water resources

4330. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the World Bank has been approached for a heavy loan for development schemes in the water sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any scheme for development of water resources in the NE